

Townley's Rule Of League Said To Be Near End

William Lemke, Long His Confidential Aid, Defeats Him in Caucus to Fix Legislative Policy

May Be Ousted From Post

Split Came on Question of Liquidating Assets of the Bank of North Dakota

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 10.—A. C. Townley has been dethroned as boss of the Nonpartisan League in North Dakota, and his early retirement as head of the national organization was held to-day by some of his friends to be a strong probability.

William Lemke, long Townley's confidential attorney and right-hand man, has seized the chief power in North Dakota, where he was elected Attorney General by the league organization last fall. He defeated Townley in the league's legislative caucus in Bismarck Monday night, after a long and bitter debate. Townley, after the caucus, rushed down to the national headquarters in Minneapolis, where he spent yesterday in conference with supporters, departing again last night for Bismarck, where he is to resume his efforts to dominate league affairs.

If Townley fails it is likely he will resign and abandon the national organization. The North Dakota league is still the backbone of Townleyism and without it his power would be seriously curtailed.

Lemke has been the actual "boss" in North Dakota for two years, but has been supposed to be acting for Townley. He has been trusted implicitly by Townley, who has turned over to Lemke control of the newspaper at Fargo, the organization of country papers and the stores corporation.

Lemke has gained the confidence and the adherence of league organizers and legislators and proved his power when he came to grips with Townley Monday and defeated him in the caucus. Out of more than seventy votes, it is reported, Townley polled only twelve in the caucus.

The strange feature of the North Dakota fight, to those who have followed the Nonpartisan League movement, was that Lemke, a conservative measure when he was overruled. He pleaded with his old friends and supporters to accept the league committee proposal and agree to liquidate the bank of North Dakota as a commercial bank, in order to straighten out the financial tangle of the industrial commission. This plan would continue the bank merely as a rural credits organization. Under it, he urged, they could serve the state flour mill an elevator enterprises and carry out a great part of their program. By insisting on carrying out the whole thing, they stand a big chance to lose it all. Townley's plea was to save what they could by compromise. Denials issued to-day by Lemke and Governor Lynn J. Frazier thinly camouflage the situation. Both men insist that they are still in "closest harmony" with Townley.

Will Contestant Holds Share

Suit Does Not Invalidate Bequest, Surrogate Cohalan Rules

Surrogate Cohalan handed down a decision yesterday, holding that Miss Eleanor B. Fox, of 181 Claremont Avenue, did not forfeit her share of the estate of her grandfather, former Senator John Fox, through her action in the Supreme Court attacking his will. Mr. Fox was for many years president of the Democratic Club and an intimate of Richard Croker, Tammany boss. He left an estate of about \$400,000. John Fox Jr., a son; Miss Katherine O'Brien, a niece of the testator's wife, and Miss Fox, the granddaughter, each was to receive the income from one-third of the estate. The former Senator stipulated that if any of the legatees contested his will the contestant was to forfeit all interest in the estate. Miss Fox brought a proceeding to set aside the document, which was unsuccessful.

Black Hand Note Writer Again Threatens Widow

Mrs. H. Butler Duncan Told to Leave \$10,000 in Newark Street or Take the Consequences

MINNEOLA, La., Feb. 10.—The Black-hand letter writer, who has terrified wealthy members of the fashionable Meadowbrook Hunt Club, has resumed operations after having been quiet for two weeks.

Mrs. A. Butler Duncan, widow of Alexander B. Duncan, who has an estate just east of Hempstead, is again a recipient of the letter writer's attention. In a missive which Mrs. Duncan received yesterday the writer demanded that she leave \$10,000 in a street in Newark and threatened her with "quick and terrible" death if she did not comply.

Mrs. Duncan is not greatly alarmed over the letter, which is the fourth she has received. She has been turning all of them over to the District Attorney in the hope that the sender will be apprehended.

Others who have received like demands are Mrs. Devereux Milburn, wife of the polo star, and Mrs. Stoddard, of Garden City.

Philip J. Christ, a former supervisor of Nassau County, has been threatened with death unless he gives up \$5,000.

Suffragists' Busts To Be Put in Nation's Capitol

Congress' Committee on Library Takes Action to Clear Way for Memorial Exercises

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Troubles over a memorial to pioneer suffragists which the Congressional Joint Committee on the Library at first hesitated to accept were ended to-day. The committee adopted a resolution in favor of accepting the statue.

The memorial busts are to be placed in the rotunda of the Capitol pending acceptance ceremonies on February 15. After that they will be given a permanent place on the first floor of the Capitol.

The action of the committee to-day followed receipt by Senator Brandegee, chairman, of a letter from Mrs. Lawrence Lewis asking that the busts be placed in the rotunda for the presentation and acceptance ceremonies and then moved wherever the committee might direct. Mrs. Lewis acted for the National Woman's party.

Senator Phelan, of California, has protested to the Fine Arts Commission against putting the memorial in the Capitol. He maintains it is "bad art."

Bryan Outlines His Plan for Remaking Democratic Party

He Says Organization Must Establish Harmony and Be Kept Out of Control of Any Special Interest

MIAMI, Fla., Feb. 10.—"If the Democratic party is going to be a force it must have members, and voters will not be willing to act through the Democratic party unless they can control it," said William Jennings Bryan, at his winter home here to-day. He was discussing the announcement yesterday in New York City by former Judge R. C. Roper, of Nebraska, that Mr. Bryan and his brother Charles planned a reorganization of the Democratic party.

Mr. Bryan said he had not known that a definite date for the launching of the movement had been set as announced by Judge Roper.

"Politicians try to use party organizations and the voters for their own benefit, while voters try to use the party organization for the advance of the public good."

"I do not expect much of any surface movements, that is, movements among party officials. Progress will

come through activity among the voters and they cannot act until they have a chance to select committeemen. Prior to this they can organize among themselves, discuss questions, pick out spokesmen and get ready for effective action when the time for the selection of the committeemen comes. This, I think, they should do. And this is what I hope to contribute to."

"If the proposed meetings of the sub-committees or the full committees have no higher purpose than the boosting of some particular aspirant for office, they will do little. If, however, the membership of the committee want to outline a constructive platform and call upon the rank and file for an expression of opinion much may be accomplished."

"Past differences ought to be forgotten. There can be no harmony as long as the 'wets' or Wall Street, or any other special interest attempts to use the party organization to keep the party from doing its duty to the public. The people are intensely in earnest and the committee can best serve the party not by burning incense before any particular idol but by getting down to work for the protection of the public against exploiters."

Senator Calder, of New York, stated

the other day that the coal men had plundered the public to the extent of a billion and one-half dollars a year. That sum is greater than all the stealing done by all the men now confined in the penitentiaries of the United States—and nothing is being done to imprison the exploiters or to protect the public from them."

Committee Raises Fund For Dry Enforcement

\$400,000 Added to House Appropriation; Wage Boost for Some Agents

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Increased funds for prohibition enforcement, urged by the National Anti-Saloon League, were authorized by the Senate Appropriations Committee to-day in reporting the annual legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill. The House provision of \$7,100,000 was increased to \$7,500,000, and it is understood that advances in salaries of some

enforcement agents was one of the objects of the increase.

The prohibition item was the principal increase voted by the Senate committee. As reported the bill carries \$110,380,000, as compared with the total of \$109,781,000 approved by the House.

Wilson Agrees Aviator Was a Spurious Hero

Approves Dismissal of Chamberlain, Who Told Fantastic Story of Exploit

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—After having the case before him since November, 1919, President Wilson to-day approved the dismissal from the United States Marine Corps of Captain Edmund G. Chamberlain, of San Antonio, Tex., who was found guilty of "falsehood" and "scandalous conduct tending to the destruction of good morals" by a general court-martial in London in May, 1919.

lated a picturesque tale of his alleged exploits as a volunteer with a British aerial group in France. According to the story credited to Chamberlain, he was invited by a British officer to visit an aerodrome within the British lines, and there made a flight, during which

he declared he successfully brought down several enemy planes and saved himself from capture by clever handling of his airship. The fantastic tale credited to Chamberlain also had him rescuing a British colonial soldier who was wounded.

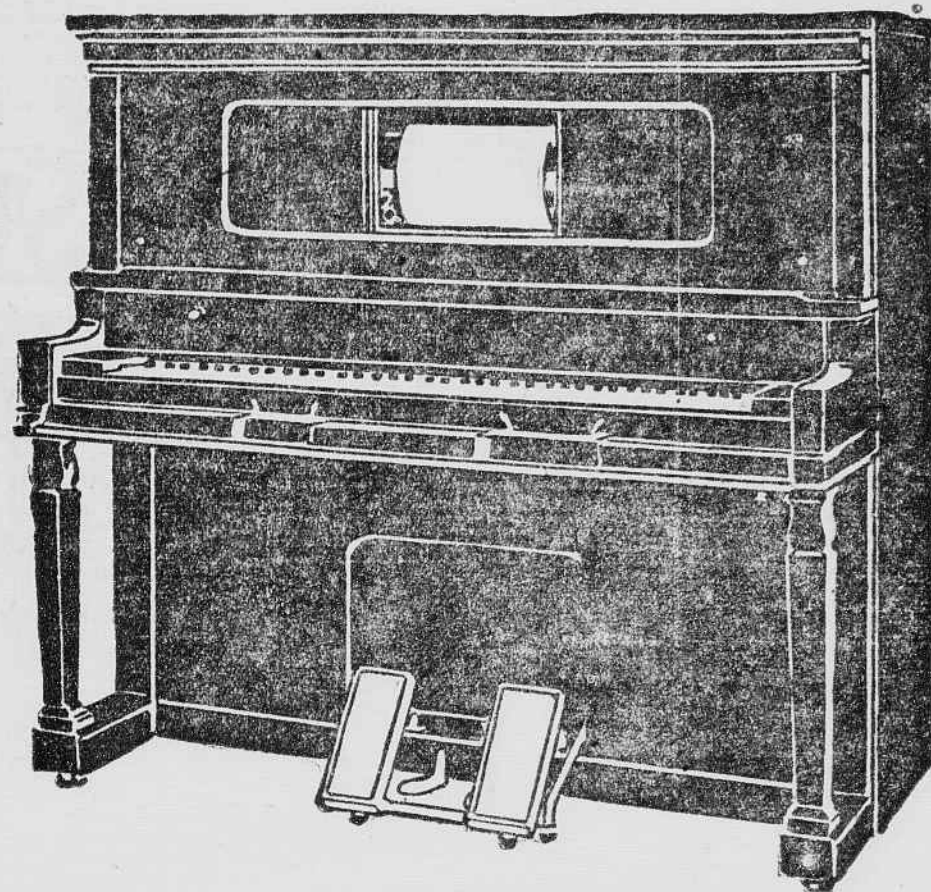
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